



AMERICAN ORTHOPTIC JOURNAL

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Each issue of the *American Orthoptic Journal* will contain those papers presented at the joint symposium of the American Orthoptic Council and the American Association of Certified Orthoptists during the annual meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. The Richard G. Scobee Memorial lecture will also be published annually. An abstract department will include selections from the current literature. The remainder of the Journal will consist of papers which are selected from those submitted for review. Original scientific work, brief case reports, descriptions of new instruments and procedures, and timely reviews of pertinent topics will be considered appropriate for the Journal, and will be judged on their merit. All essayists at the regional and national orthoptic meetings are urged to consider the *American Orthoptic Journal* for publication.

Each manuscript must conform to the editorial policy of the Journal regarding spelling, punctuation, and typographic construction. As a guide, "The Stylebook and Editorial Manual," prepared by the Scientific Publication Division of the American Medical Association, may be used. One original and two copies of the complete manuscript should be submitted. Each manuscript should contain a title page which includes the author(s)' address and the institution where the principal work was carried out. An address where reprints can be requested should also be included. Each page of the manuscript should contain, in the upper right hand corner, the first author's last name, an abbreviated running title, and a page number. The paper should include a 200-word abstract that will precede the paper in its published form: please arrange your abstract into four sections: Introduction and Purpose, Patients and Method, Results, and Conclusion. Margins should be 1½ inches on all sides and double spacing should be used throughout. A list of key words and three or four multiple-choice questions (with answers keyed) should accompany the manuscript.

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Editorial

Recently, I was watching a television show that asked the question: how do you define yourself? We are all defined by the various aspects of our lives, of which there are many. We are defined by family, religion, marital status, and career. The latter plays a large role in how we define ourselves as productive beings. Although our careers must never be allowed to overwhelm the other defining aspects of ourselves, we often describe ourselves to others based on the career that we have chosen.

As orthoptists, we frequently are asked to further describe our career. The term “orthoptist” usually means little to others. We often give a one-line, pre-packaged type of answer. For myself, although I may give this type of response to others, it is important to give myself, and my profession, more credit. Orthoptics is a career that affords us a multitude of options of involvement. The crucial clinical aspects of orthoptics can be described by listing the types of patients we see and the types of treatment we provide. However, there is more to being an orthoptist than the day-to-day clinical activities, although we are often reminded that this is the part that “pays”. It is commonly felt that teaching and research are reserved for those of us that choose it. But, think about it. Who among us has not “taught” a patient’s parents about accommodative esotropia or amblyopia therapy? Are we not constantly comparing different treatment options depending on the latest research and our own experience? Although we may participate at different levels, as orthoptists we are all doing teaching and research. The emphasis that we place on each area defines our individual career. The choices are endless. Through our involvement in orthoptics, we grow as individuals and as a profession.

I define myself in many ways. Being an orthoptist is just one of them, but a vital one. There are so many aspects of being an orthoptist that it is important not to sell ourselves or our careers short. We all must continue this profession that we have chosen by helping it to grow and thrive.

Pamela J. Kutschke, C.O.
President
American Association of Certified Orthoptists

Editorial

I am happy to report about a major move for the *American Orthoptic Journal* to provide better online access. Since 1996 the journal has had its own home page (www.aoj.org), one of the first journals to do this in ophthalmology! On this web page, there has been the ability to search for papers by topic and author, and this now goes back to 1991, volume 41. Many of these papers have their abstracts available and a few are available in their entirety (e.g., Knapp P: Reflections on the superior oblique muscle. *Am Orthopt J* 1991; 41:26-28), but all the papers have not been available for direct access until this year.

The University of Wisconsin Press has now, with the help of Ingenta™, put the entire journal online and made it available to subscribers. Volume 54 should be available online by the time the journal is mailed out in September 2004. In order to gain access for the electronic edition, go to the UW Press Journals Division web site and click on the Ingenta™ logo and then follow the instructions on how to register. (<http://www.wisc.edu/wisconsinpress/journals/journals/aoj.html>) We are very excited to know that this will allow worldwide access to the journal both for individuals and for institutions. The journal's website will continue and will point to the new site for this and future volumes as they become available.

On a sad note, I am sorry to say that this will be the last time that the name of Jacqueline Shimko, C. O., appears on the Editorial Board as Associate Editor. Jacque has served in this position since 1993, the longest tenure of any previous Associate Editor! It has been a very special relationship since we not only have worked together on the production of this journal for the past eleven years, we have now completed 29 years as colleagues in the pediatric eye clinic at the University of Wisconsin Hospital & Clinics! Jacque is one of the most punctual and careful editors one could ever imagine. She is not just "on time" with her papers, but usually well ahead of any deadline that might have been thought about, let alone decided upon! Her proofreading abilities are incredible. I have often asked her to re-read galleys that have been previously proofed by the authors and by me and appear to be fully correct, only to have her find many more errors that need correction! If the journal has had relatively few typos during these past years, it has been due to her careful work! Jacque has been the force behind the "Abstracts of the Ophthalmic Literature," assigning and often obtaining the various journals for her Abstract Editorial staff, then copyediting them, and doing the galley proofs entirely on her own. The "Case Corner" has also been her "baby", with Jacque defining the topic, choosing the contributors, and then making sure that they all arrive in plenty of time for copyediting for submission with the rest of the journal to the typesetters. She has helped me with finding new orthoptic members of the editorial board and has kept the AACO informed of any changes in the journal, subscription costs, etc. I will really miss working with her! Thankfully, she has not made any requests to also slow down at the clinic!

Typically, Jacque has already begun working with the newly appointed Associate Editor, Kyle Arnoldi, C. O., in order to make this transition as smooth as possible. We will be pleased to welcome Kyle in next year's journal!

This year's Sunday night symposium deals with the topic of strabismus following trauma. The diagnostic approach to this, often adult, problem, along with both medical and surgical approaches to therapy, make this a particularly interesting symposium. The organizers, Dr. Weakley and Ms. Kutschke, have brought together a highly respected group of ophthalmologists and orthoptists to share their experiences with us.

The cause of DVD has long puzzled strabismologists. This year's Scobee lecturer, Dr. David Guyton, has been among the few who have tried to better understand this condition. Using special eye movement recordings, he has previously shown that Herring's law of equal innervation is not broken by the movements seen in DVD. In this lecture, he argues that DVD damps the latent nystagmus present in these patients and allows them better vision in the fixing eye.

Dr. Raymond Buncic was one of the first to combine training in pediatric ophthalmology and neuro-ophthalmology and is still one of the few who has continued to practice in both subspecialties. His John Pratt-Johnson lecture reflects his extensive experience with nystagmus during his time at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto.

I know you will find many of the other papers in this issue of interest. Gillian Roper-Hall has given us a special paper concerning Claud Worth on what is the 100th anniversary of his first book, *Squint*. Her access to documents regarding his sailing interests allows her to present a very interesting aspect of this famous strabismologist!

Thanks to all the contributors to this year's edition and to the members of the Editorial Board for their support!

T. D. France, M.D.
Editor

